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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)		Application Number	10/696,739
		Filing Date	October 28, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Miller, et al.
		Art Unit	3677
		Examiner Name	Neill R. Wilson
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	17	Attorney Docket Number	0275M-000650

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Technology Center (TC) <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Response to Restriction Requirement (15 pages); and postcard.		
<table border="1"><tr><td>Remarks</td><td>The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 02-2550. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</td></tr></table>			Remarks	The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 02-2550. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm or Individual name	Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.	Attorney Name	Christopher A. Eusebi
		Reg. No.	44,672
Signature			
Date	September 15, 2004		

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EV 531 989 915 US



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/696,739
Filing Date: October 28, 2003
Applicant: Miller, et al.
Group Art Unit: 3677
Examiner: Neill R. Wilson
Title: FASTENER FOR SPANNING A LARGE GAP
Attorney Docket: 0275M-000650

Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed August 26, 2004, Applicants provisionally elect the claims of Group I (Claims 1-47 and new Claims 49-53 submitted in a Preliminary Amendment of August 23, 2004), with traverse.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 15 of this paper.